



**STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
PROBATION OVERSIGHT COMMISSION
WORKING GROUP
KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 374
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012**

Wednesday, August 3, 2016

1:30 PM

Call to Order.

Chair Chodroff called the meeting to order at 1:46 p.m.

Present: Chair Carol Chodroff, Vice Chair Alex Johnson, Gabriella Holt,
Don Meredith and Jose Osuna

I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

1. Approve Minutes for the Meeting of July 20, 2016. (16-3743)

On motion of Vice Chair Johnson, seconded by Member Osuna, the Probation Oversight Commission Working Group approved the July 20, 2016 Minutes.

Attachments: [07-20-16 Minutes](#)

2. Meeting Schedule and Location Update. (16-3744)

By Common Consent, there being no objection, the Probation Oversight Commission Working Group approved the Meeting Schedule as amended to add a presentation from Probation Employee Unions at the October 12, 2016 meeting.

Attachments: [Meeting Schedule 08-03-16](#)

3. Review of Town Hall Meetings - Schedule and Location. (16-3750)

Chair Chodroff informed the Working Group that the best available dates for the Working Group Members have been submitted to Commission Staff and Staff will work with the CEO's Office to schedule specific dates and locations.

II. OVERSIGHT ASSESSMENT: Review of Previous Presentations

4. Discussion of the information obtained from last meeting's Presentations, pending reports and next steps. (16-3493)

There was none.

III. PRESENTATIONS

5. Presentation by Judge Michael Nash, Director, Office of Child Protection. (16-3747)

Judge Michael Nash, Executive Director of the Office of Child Protection, provided background of his experience as Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles County Juvenile Court and addressed the questions prepared by the Working Group beforehand. Judge Nash highlighted some of the significant procedures developed during his tenure as Presiding Judge and expressed his current concerns regarding the Juvenile Justice System. Judge Nash indicated that the Juvenile Court has some oversight of holding agencies responsible to the oath made to the youths and courts, such as ensuring that the educational, medical and family needs of the juveniles are being addressed. However, Judge Nash stressed that there is no direct authority to make sure that everything that should be done for each child is being done. Judge Nash stressed the importance of having consistent data on every aspect that touches Probation youth, and believes that if the Department of Probation had access to real-time data it would greatly improve the needs assessment of the Department. Judge Nash also highlighted the issue of trauma and abuse and how it affects the mental health of the children, especially those in Probation custody. Judge Nash indicated that he is in favor of dividing the Probation Department into two separate Departments and believes that more can be accomplished for the youth if there was a singular department focused on youth only. He also stated that communication and collaboration between the proposed youth and adult Probation Departments would be imperative.

Attachments: [Questions for Judge Nash](#)

6. Presentation by Dr. Debra Duardo, Superintendent, Dr. Joseph Ybarra, Chief Deputy Superintendent and Jason Hasty, Director of Pupil Services, Los Angeles County Office of Education, and their partnership with the Department of Probation. (16-3748)

Dr. Debra Duardo, Superintendent, Dr. Joseph Ybarra, Executive Deputy Superintendent, and Jason Hasty, Director of the Pupil Services Division of the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE), presented a PowerPoint Presentation addressing the questions prepared by the Working Group beforehand. Dr. Duardo highlighted the role that LACOE has with Probation Youth and stated that her office provides educational services to 1,800 students in the Juvenile Court Schools. Dr. Duardo stressed the importance of interagency relationships in order to address Probation youth issues and discussed the need for a coordinated approach between agencies to ensure that students are receiving the highest level of services possible. Dr. Duardo also stressed the prevalence of juvenile trauma and abuse and the need to provide trauma service training for staff in order to improve the working relationship between students and staff.

During the Presentation, Mr. Hasty provided an overview of the various programs that LACOE offers to Probation youth. Dr. Duardo addressed Chair Chodroff's question regarding the policy of removing students from the classroom, and indicated that it should be the last resort and for safety purposes only. Dr. Duardo indicated that a well-trained instructor and/or officer who understands the effects of trauma is better equipped in diffusing a disruptive situation.

Dr. Duardo and Mr. Hasty addressed a question posed by Member Meredith regarding the established protocols for LACOE staff relative to suspected child misconduct or abuse by an adult. Mr. Hasty indicated that the Officer-of-the-Day would be notified as well as the police and/or the Department of Children and Family Services if warranted. Dr. Duardo indicated that she is working on establishing specific protocols relative to juvenile disturbances in the classroom and/or misconduct by others.

Chair Chodroff inquired as to the AB 216 cases where Probation youth are permitted to graduate High School with fewer credits and then have nothing productive to do between graduation and release. Dr. Duardo indicated that she recognizes the issue and is determined to find a solution so that all youth confined in Probation Camps can make productive use of their time learning new information and skills to help them upon release.

Dr. Duardo concluded with informing the Working Group that she has met with Chief Remington and intends to ensure that LACOE has ongoing communication and collaboration with the Probation Department.

Attachments: [Questions for LACOE](#)
[LACOE PowerPoint](#)

IV. STATUS REPORTS/UPDATES AND DISCUSSION ITEM(S)

7. Discussion of and processes for review of the "Working Document Recommendations" which contain draft recommendations and/or comments of the Working Group Members and/or other sources relating to the creation of a Probation Oversight Commission. (16-3746)

Chair Chodroff presented the revised Working Document for the draft recommendations and highlighted the document structure and various other minor revisions. Chair Chodroff requested that the Members be prepared to discuss the document in detail at the next meeting.

Attachments: [Working Document Recommendations v7-13-16](#)
[Working Document Recommendations v8-3-16](#)

8. Update by the Chief Executive Office on the progress of the Consultant (RDA) for the preparation of the best practices model evaluation; and discussion of the protocol in working with the RDA relative to meeting schedule, reports, information requests and correspondence. (16-3490)

Ann Hom Wong, CEO Office, informed the Working Group that the contract with the Consultant, RDA, is being finalized and that the Consultant work is expected to take twelve months. Chair Chodroff inquired of Counsel as to how the Working Group will interact with the Consultant given the time differential between the Working Group's recommendations and the Consultant's final report. County Counsel indicated that they will consider the process and report back to the Working Group at a future meeting.

Attachments: [Scope of Work for Consultant](#)

9. Reports and/or updates by the Interim Chief Probation Officer and/or staff. (16-3142)

Cal Remington, Interim Chief Probation Officer, presented a brief report regarding the elimination of child solitary confinement at Probation Camps. Chief Remington highlighted a new trial program being utilized at three pilot sites. The program consists of the disorderly child being removed from the disruptive situation and taken to the "Hope Center," a facility located in the Camp where counselors intervene and work with the child to return him/her to the mainstream campus.

10. Review of existing Probation-related Commissions, Committees and Agencies; Matrix overview of roles and responsibilities; and discussion of the presentation schedule and other related matters. (16-3149)

Amalia Lopez, Probation Department, informed the Working Group that she is working on a revised chart that will show which agencies inspect adult/juvenile facilities.

Attachments: [Probation-related Commissions and Agencies List](#)
[Probation Dept - Matrix Overview Roles and Responsibilities](#)

V. MISCELLANEOUS

11. Matters not on the posted agenda, to be discussed and (if requested) referred to staff or placed on the agenda for action at a future meeting, or matters requiring immediate action because of an emergency situation or where the need to take action came to the attention of the Probation Oversight Working Group subsequent to the posting of the agenda. (16-2018)

Chair Chodroff asked that an updated "Back to Basics" report by the Interim Chief Probation Officer be placed on a future agenda as a separate item. Also, the letter from the Probation Commission to the Board of Supervisors was requested to be placed on the next agenda as a separate discussion item.

12. Opportunity for members of the public to address the Working Group on items of interest that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Working Group. (16-3289)

There were none.

13. Adjournment of the meeting of Wednesday, August 3, 2016. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 17, 2016 at the South Los Angeles Adult Probation Day Reporting Center, Room 118, at 10:00 a.m. (16-3749)

On motion of Vice Chair Johnson, seconded by Member Holt, the meeting was adjourned at 4:19 p.m.